

Administration of Barack H. Obama, 2009

Statement on the Rescue of Richard Phillips off the Coast of Somalia

April 12, 2009

I am very pleased that Captain Phillips has been rescued and is safely on board the USS *Boxer*. His safety has been our principal concern, and I know this is a welcome relief to his family and his crew.

I am also very proud of the efforts of the U.S. military and many other departments and agencies who worked tirelessly to secure Captain Phillips's safe recovery.

We remain resolved to halt the rise of piracy in this region. To achieve that goal, we must continue to work with our partners to prevent future attacks, be prepared to interdict acts of piracy, and ensure that those who commit acts of piracy are held accountable for their crimes.

I share the country's admiration for the bravery of Captain Phillips and his selfless concern for his crew. His courage is a model for all Americans.

Categories: Statements by the President : Captain Richard Phillips, rescue off the coast of Somalia.

Names: Phillips, Richard.

Subjects: Commerce, international : Piracy; Defense and national security : Piracy, efforts to combat; Somalia : Commercial vessel hostage, rescue; Somalia : Piracy incidents, increase.

DCPD Number: DCPD200900253.